



# USAID | HAITI

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## FACT SHEET POLITICAL PARTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

### **Background**

Political parties as democratic institutions in Haiti have been weak and fragile. Politics have tended to violence when they did not have popular basis, or acted unilaterally and undemocratically when in power. In response to these challenges, the USAID's Political Party Development Program (PPD) seeks to build on earlier NDI implemented programs and work to strengthen Haiti's democratic system by helping to develop more responsive and representative political parties.

### **Activities**

The program activities will be the following: 1) Strengthen the organizational structure and capacity of parties to improve outreach and communication with citizens; 2) Help parties develop policy agendas and ideologies to promote substantive, consistent positions on national issues and improve governance; 3) Change the political culture in Haiti by promoting dialogue, tolerance and legal reforms to promote constructive participation.

### **USAID support**

On October 31, 2007, USAID signed a 3-year Cooperative Agreement with the National Democratic Institute (NDI) for US\$3 million to provide support to an array of Haitian political parties through the Political Party Development (PPD) program.

### **Implementer**

The National Democratic Institute (NDI) is the implementer of this program.

### **Objective**

Help political parties to strengthen democratic governance.

### **Targets**

In FY 2008, the program will seek to provide political party training to 5,308 individuals, assist 7 political parties and political groupings to articulate platform and policy agendas effectively, and assist 7 political parties implementing programs to increase the number of women and youth candidates.

### **Anticipated results over Life of Program**

- Increase party leaders' knowledge on the role of a party in democratic governance;
- Demonstrate how formal institutional systems of political participation can be used to advance a party's interests and platforms;
- Demonstrate how to build party loyalty among members and develop constructive ties with elected officials;
- Develop an understanding for peaceful democratic change;
- Develop better channels of communications within political parties;
- Increase a parties ability to articulate its vision and ideals;
- Build constructive links with external parties and organizations; and
- Learn basic leadership skills of negotiation, problem solving, strategic planning and public relations.